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ANDEAN PACT FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING ENDS

Joint Statement Issued

PA152223 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0533 GMT 15 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Santa Cruz, Bolivia, 15 Jan (LATIN)--The foreign ministers of the Andean Pact early today issued a joint statement reaffirming their decision to strengthen the democratic system as an "essential means" to attain the subregion's economic, social and cultural development.

The foreign ministers of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela signed the document, entitled the "Santa Cruz Declaration," at the end of the first meeting of the consultive council. The organization was created in November. The statement reasserted the intention of the governments of the five nations "to maintain and strengthen democratic institutions."

The council said respect for human, political, economic and social rights is the "fundamental internal rule of conduct for the member countries of the Andean Group."

It said that the defense of these rights is an international duty for all states and, therefore, joint action taken for their protection "does not violate the principle of nonintervention."

It reasserts the principles regarding the defense of democracy in America and the structural conditions required by democracy which appear in the La Paz Declaration, signed during the ninth regular OAS session, held in La Paz, Bolivia, in October 1979.

It expresses its satisfaction over the stand taken by the Bolivian people during the last political crisis in this country, a stand which signified the consolidation of the democratic institutions in Latin America and, above all, in the Andean subregion. It renews its expressions of solidarity with the Bolivian people and with the democratic institutions created through their free will.

This declaration is joined in by the secretary of state for foreign affairs of Spain.

Signed in the city of Santa Cruz de la Sierra on 14 January 1980. [Signed Julio Garret Ayllon, Bolivian foreign minister; Diego Uribe Vargas, Colombian foreign minister; Alfredo Pareja Diezcanseco, Ecuadorean foreign minister; Arturo Garcia y Garcia, Peruvian foreign minister; Jose Alberto Zambrano, Venezuelan foreign minister.

This is the most important part of the Santa Cruz de la Sierra Declaration on the democratic system. Together with this document, about 10 others were signed tonight at the conclusion of this important event here in Santa Cruz de la Sierra.

To conclude this report and to let you know the most prominent things which have been done for Bolivia, Bolivian Foreign Minister Julio Garret Ayllon stated the following to Radio Panamericana:

[Begin recording] This important meeting of the Andean Group foreign ministers has just ended. It was a meeting of intensive work and highly significant to this country, because clear support for the democratic process in this country has been obtained from the foreign ministers council, as well as aid from the Andean Pact countries to Bolivia, and above all positive progress has been achieved in support of the Bolivian maritime cause.

The first meeting of the Andean Foreign Ministers Consultive Council also reached other agreements, including one referring to solidarity with Bolivia in rejecting the U.S. Government's decision to sell 35,000 tons of tin.

Bolivia criticized the U.S. sale, authorized by President Jimmy Carter, and described it as economic aggression against its people because of the primary role tin plays in the Bolivian economy.

The "Santa Cruz Declaration" concluded an exhausting series of discussions by the five foreign ministers, thus ending the first meeting of their council, which had been originally scheduled to last 2 days.

The ministers will leave Bolivia today and will meet again in Lima with Brazilian Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro, with whom they will analyze future Andean relations with that nation.

Further on Joint Statement

PY151714 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 15 Jan 80 PY

[Excerpts] At a solemn ceremony last night in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, the meeting of the Andean Group foreign ministers was closed. This first meeting of the foreign ministers of the subregional group served to strengthen and define the general lines of integration among our nations with full respect for the independence of these countries in the fields of economy, science, technology and harmonious and purposeful development.

The council of the Peruvian, Colombian, Venezuelan, Ecuadorean and Bolivian foreign ministers signed joint declarations which are considered to be important, since they give much more force to the integration programs of our peoples.

The entire ceremony was covered by our news service when the important event was closed at Los Tajibos Hotel in Santa Cruz. We now offer our audience throughout the country the report by the Radio Panamericana special correspondent (Daniel Alarcon Morales).

Radio Panamericana reporting from Santa Cruz: You are listening to (Daniel Alarcon Morales), special correspondent assigned to cover the development and details of this important gathering of the Andean Group foreign ministers, who have just ended their first meeting here in Santa Cruz de la Sierra at Los Tajibos Hotel. The most important result of the event is the Santa Cruz de la Sierra Declaration on the democratic system. Its main part says:

It [presumably the foreign ministers council] reasserts the decision of the Andean Group to strengthen participative democracy in the member countries as an essential means to achieve their economic, social and cultural development in a balanced and harmonious manner.

It confirms the will of the respective governments to cooperate to the extent of their possibilities in the maintenance and strengthening of democratic institutions, and to this end it encourages the exchange of information and points of view when circumstances in the subregion so require.

It declares that respect for human, political, economic and social rights is a basic norm of internal conduct for the states of the Andean Group and that their defense is an international obligation to which the states are bound and that, consequently, joint action to protect these rights does not violate the nonintervention principle.

I believe that these are very positive results and that this meeting has really been fruitful for the country. Furthermore, a declaration has been approved firmly and categorically supporting the Bolivian position regarding the unjust sale of the U.S. strategic reserves without prior consultation.

[Question] Regarding relations with the Amazonian group, Brazil and Argentina, has the Andean Group discussed that topic in Santa Cruz?

[Answer] Bolivia has always attached the greatest importance to the opening of relations, particularly with Argentina. The council has approved a joint invitation for the next meeting of all the foreign ministers to the Argentine foreign minister, and that meeting will be held in the second half of March. As you know, tomorrow we will have a joint meeting in Lima with the Brazilian foreign minister. [end recording]

These statements were made to Radio Panamericana by Bolivian Foreign Minister Julio Garret Ayllon, who again expressed his wish that the meeting which ended here in Santa Cruz tonight should serve as an example for the success of future meetings of the Andean Group foreign ministers council.

Today, Tuesday, the foreign ministers and the Andean Group will return to their respective countries via Lima.

Bolivian Minister Adjourns Meeting

PA150443 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0117 GMT 15 Jan 80 PA

[By Rene Villegas]

[Text] Santa Cruz, Bolivia, 14 Jan (LATIN)--Bolivian Foreign Minister Julio Garret demanded here tonight a greater effort by the Andean Group to take the benefits of integration to the majority of people in the region which live in distressing conditions.

The minister spoke in this city, 900 km southeast of La Paz, during the adjournment of the first meeting of the Andean Pact Foreign Ministers Consultive Council.

Garret gave enormous political importance to the ministers meeting which, he said, gave institutional life to the council as "the nerve center of Andean integration."

He added that the new consultive organization was created not only as a way to support the democratic cause in the subregion, but also as "an instrument to protect democracy against dangers before they become a reality," he said.

Assessing the "memorable advances" gained by the Andean integration process during the 10 years of its existence, he mentioned the trade agreement with the United States, but said that even more promising perspectives are opening in the relations of the group with Brazil, Argentina and the EEC.

At the end of his adjournment speech, the host foreign minister urged the subregional countries to extend with the greatest possible speed the benefits of integration "to those socioeconomic levels of our people where the most elemental needs of social welfare are most needed."

ECONOMY MINISTER SEES NO 'REPRISALS' BY U.S.

PY161646 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1330 GMT 16 Jan 80 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Jan (NA)--Economy Minister Jose Alfredo Martinez de Hoz virtually rejected the possibility that the United States will take reprisals against Argentina because it will not participate in the grain boycott against the USSR, asserting that "I understand that this is not the case."

Martinez de Hoz was questioned on this topic this morning just before he left for Rosario, where he will attend a ceremony in that city in which a free port zone will be given to Paraguay.

Answering a question, the minister remarked that the meeting he chaired yesterday at the Economy Ministry, with the attendance of the chairman of the National Grain Board, David Lacroze, was "simply for an exchange of information" and that it permitted Lacroze "to supplement the information we already had regarding the meeting in Washington," because "Argentina is simply implementing the already announced policy."

Asked about statements by an official of the U.S. State Department which indicate that Argentina will not increase grain supplies to the Soviet Union, Martinez de Hoz answered that "the Argentine position has been clearly set, both in the official document released by the government and in the clarifications issued by Lacroz and Jorge Zorreguieta, the agriculture and livestock secretary, in this capital. I believe everything has been said in those three documents and that there is nothing more to add."

When he was asked if he believed that the U.S. Government would apply restrictive measures or reprisals against Argentina because it refused to participate in the grain boycott against Russia, the minister stated that "I understand that this is not the case."

On another topic, Martinez de Hoz stated today that "the transfer to Paraguay of the free zone in Rosario port granted by Argentina" responds to the objective of "continuing the policy of close economic cooperation with our neighboring countries." The minister added: "We believe that we are helping Paraguay's foreign trade by giving it a port area on the River Plate that will greatly facilitate the export of its produce, especially grain. This is a very important ceremony, and it strengthens the links of cooperation and friendship between our countries," Martinez de Hoz concluded.

W. EUROPEAN ENVOYS INFORMED ON HUMAN RIGHTS STAND

PY161554 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2243 GMT 15 Jan 80 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 15 Jan (NA)--It has been learned from Foreign Ministry sources that the Argentine Government today informed the ambassadors of the FRG, the Netherlands and Great Britain of the position which Argentina will maintain during the UN Human Rights Commission meeting to be held in Geneva in February. In this regard, the diplomatic representatives of the FRG, Joachim Jaenicke, and the Netherlands, Dorone van den Brandele, and the British charge d'affaires, Hugh Michael Carless, met with the under secretary of foreign relations, Col Carlos Cavandoli. Although there has been no announcement concerning the briefing of the diplomats, it was learned that they were informed of the position which Argentina will maintain during the meeting.

GOVERNMENT REITERATES DECISION TO RETURN STATE-OWNED PAPERS

PA112358 Paris AFP in Spanish 2356 GMT 9 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpt] The Peruvian Government today repealed its former decision to indemnify the owners of newspapers of this capital which became state owned in July of 1974, maintaining its decision to return them to their owners at the proper time. The police, in the meantime, have maintained their encirclement, begun last Firday, of the building which houses CORREO and OJO in this capital, whose personnel, termed communist by some conservative organs, are trying to publish them on their own.

The military government today revoked three articles of the July 1978 press law which provided for compensation payment to the former owners of the newspapers which would be turned into a stock company. This option was abandoned some months ago when President Gen Franciso Morales Bermudez described it as impracticable, adding that the papers will be returned to their former owners and workers, a measure which will take effect after the May elections at the latest.

The problem of OJO and CORREO, whose workers went on strike last Thursday, continued unchanged today and, therefore, the papers have not been published since then. The workers are demanding the payment of a Christmas bonus, the payment of back wages since July and removal of the committee board members appointed by the government [to the newspaper] as well as to other press organs in the city.

LEFTIST UNITY FRONT ANNOUNCES PRESIDENTIAL SLATE

PA142243 Paris AFP in Spanish 0455 GMT 12 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Lima, 11 Jan (AFP)--The Leftist Unity, a front made up of three Marxist parties, at noon today announced its presidential slate for the 18 May general elections. The slate will be charged with building socialism in Peru. This bloc, which was also formally established today, chose as its presidential candidate Genaro Ledesma, 49, a lawyer and head of the Popular Worker, Peasant and Student Front (FOCEP). The groups which won the most votes for the FOCEP in the 1978 constituent elections have now withdrawn from it.

Jorge del Prado, secretary general of the Communist Party (Orthodox) was named candidate for first vice president, while Antonio Meza Cuadra, secretary general of the Socialist Revolutionary Party (Velasquist) was named candidate for second vice president. The ceremony in which the establishment of the Leftist Unity and its presidential slate was announced was attended by some 400 members, who continuously cheered the three leaders.

Although the leaders said that the front is open to all progressive and popular groups, its formation marked a division within the left, since the Trotskiyites and Maoists are preparing to elect their own presidential candidates. The front, which also includes four other radical groups, plans to fight against Yankee imperialism, the military dictatorship, reactionary forces, APRA and Popular Christian and Popular Action parties. In elections to the Constituent Assembly, made up of 100 representatives, a united FOCEP had obtained 12 seats, the Communist Party 6, and the Revolutionary Socialist Party another 6; in other words, 24 percent of the valid votes.

HERRERA INTERVIEWED ON ENERGY, CABINET CHANGES, MIDDLE EAST VISIT

PA161230 Caracas VENPRES in Spanish 0801 GMT 15 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpts] Barquisimeto, 14 Jan (VENPRES)--President Luis Herrera Campins said today that his trip to the Middle East still stands. President Herrera made this statement on his arrival at Barquisimeto's airport, where newsmen interviewed him. When told that Saudi Petroleum and Mineral Affairs Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani said OPEC prices could drop in 1980, Herrera noted that "during the 9 months of my government the price of Venezuelan oil has more than doubled."

President Herrera said that it is impossible to make predictions but he is under the impression that energy consumption in the world continues to rise in spite of all the conservation campaigns various countries have tried to implement.

He stated: "For the time being, we continue working very hard on that national project, the Orinoco oil belt, which will have a tremendous influence on the entire country, but especially on the states of Monagas, Anzoategui and Guarico. We are working on the future."

The president said that there has been much improvement of technology and marketing contracts, with their terms much better in every way than those in effect until last year. "This week the country and the National Congress will receive an expanded report on this. I have ordered Energy and Mines Minister Calderon Berti to release this report," Herrera said.

Newsmen asked the chief of state if there will be Cabinet changes and he said: "There has been some movement in the bullpen in the past few days, as you know." President Herrera said that perhaps there will be other changes, "but first we have to fill some of the vacancies." The president noted that the few new changes will not be at the ministry level.

President Herrera was asked for his opinion on the foundation involved in the development of the midwestern region, which some say went bankrupt because its budget was reduced, and the president noted: "Those things can be overcome." Herrera said that some organizations suffer a budget cut because of an oversight or because others do not realize the agency's importance.

Herrera later said that he believes that Venezuelans have to make a great effort to get out of the pessimistic psychological quagmire in which some sectors want the country to sink. "This is why I am against whining and am for optimism, happiness and serious and hard work to obtain good results," he stated.

On the possibility of his Middle East trip being postponed, the president said that this had been noted today by "my dear friend Luis Esteban Rey, a Democratic Action congressman." "Of course," he added, "my trip to the Middle East is subject to the world situation, considering that it is a very convulsed area. I hope that the world will have enough commonsense to prevent the increase in tensions that now characterize international relations in that area."

Herrera said that as long as there is no indication that his trip would be inadvisable, the trip stands and the preparations for it will continue. So the visit, scheduled to take place from 4 to 16 February, will begin in Argentina and end at the OPEC headquarters in Vienna, Austria.

PRESIDENT ROYO CONFIRMS CONTACT WITH IRAN'S QOTBZADEH

PA170222 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0136 GMT 17 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpt] Panama City, 16 Jan (LATIN)--Panamanian President Aristides Royo tonight confirmed to this agency that he had talked on the phone with Iranian Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh. Shortly after swearing in new Government and Justice Minister Ricardo Rodriguez, Royo confirmed several Tehran reports on his talks with the Iranian foreign minister. "That is true," Royo responded.

Extremely cautious in his statements to this agency, Royo said that he had talked to Qotbzadeh "about Iran," thus avoiding any comments on the contents of the cabled reports. According to one of these reports, datelined in Tehran, the topic of his conversations had been the extradition of former Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, who is currently staying on Contadora Island, a tourist beach resort located off Panana's Pacific coast.

The press reports said that the Iranian paper BAMDAD declared that the Panamanian president had been in touch with Minister Qotbzadeh to discuss Iran's request that the ousted monarch be extradited. According to the reports, BAMDAD stated that Qotbzadeh had interrupted an event connected with the presidential campaign in order to receive a phone call from Royo in his Foreign Ministry office.

The reports added that the Iranian foreign minister said he had received two phone calls from Royo in connection with a letter he had sent to the Panamanian authorities to demand the former shah's extradition.

RUMORS OF SHAH'S EXTRADITION CONTINUE DESPITE OFFICIAL DENIALS

PA170245 Paris AFP in Spanish 0206 GMT 17 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpts] Panama City, 16 Jan (AFP)--Many contradictory rumors about the possibility of extraditing the former shah have been circulating here today but they have been flatly denied by important Panamanian Government officials consulted by AFP. The officials said that there has been no change in the Panamanian policy regarding the presence of the shah in Panama. The officials recalled that President Aristides Royo himself recently stated the country's position in that regard.

Despite the statements by the Panamanian president, the rumors about the possible departure of the shah continue, perhaps as a result of the lack of reliable information on the plans of the former monarch. But even official statements sometimes are contradictory in this case. Sources from the Panamanian Embassy in Washington stated today that their government is desregarding any extradition demands for the shah. However, according to the Chicago TRIBUNE, the governments of Iran and Panama have established high-level negotiations on an eventual return of the shah to his country.

For the time being, local sources believe, nothing indicates that the shah plans to leave the country. Panama is practically immune to any possible Iranian reprisal and the shah has found here a relatively quiet exile where he can await the results of the crisis provoked by the kidnaping of the North Americans in Tehran.

TEACHERS GIVE GOVERNMENT DEADLINE TO COMPLY WITH ACCORDS

PA161438 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 15 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpts] The differences between teachers and the national government deepened even more during the personnel board installation ceremonies this morning at the Education Ministry. Shortly before the installation ceremony, hundreds of teachers occupied the ministry's personnel offices, singing the teachers' hymn and chanting the slogan they used during their 62-day strike last year, "Now or never."

Julio Cesar Ortiz, secretary general of the National Association of Professors of Panama, again attacked the government authorities who returned bills 47 and 48 to the National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives for reconsideration. Approval of such legislation was a basic condition in the accords that ended the teachers' strike, which involved a heavy political price for the executive when opposition sectors capitalized on it.

Less than 6 months after the strike, which affected 500,000 students, the teachers leadership today presented new demands to the government. [Begin Professor Ortiz recording] We are simply going to announce some specific actions which we, as honest teachers, are going to initiate. We want to take this opportunity to tell the Education Ministry officials that those who are not qualified to occupy a post in this ministry have the moral obligation to resign and let somebody who is qualified take over. [applause]

Concerning specific actions we are going to take, we are going to refer to something which the two executive committees agreed on yesterday. Following the meetings with the minister of education and the president of the Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives concerning President Royo's veto of Law 47, which neither of these officials could explain, we have decided to make a specific announcement here, from this tribune of freedom, which is the Ministry of Education, that as of today belongs to the honest teachers of Panama. [appaluse]

The announcement is that we are giving the Ministry of Education and the government until 31 January 1980 to honor the accords, specifically laws 47 and 48; to turn in before that date the list of back salaries owed; to announce free tuition for grade schools and 5-balboa tuition for high schools, and not a cent more is to be paid above that; [applause] to announce that teachers will no longer have to inform the Education Ministry which shcools graduating sixth-graders will attend. Otherwise, on 31 January the minister of education will have no certificates or diplomas to sign because we will not turn in any reports on our students. Thank you. [applause] [end recording]

So far it has been impossible to obtain from any ranking official of the Education Ministry a comment or statement in reply to the charges made against ministry officials by Professor Julio Cesar Ortiz on two different occasions. Last night, Education Minister Gustavo Garcia de Paredes refused to make any statements after Professor Ortiz referred to various aspects of the education problem. This morning, after Professor Ortiz reiterated and expanded his charges of last night, the vice minister of education, Clara Nimia de del Basto, also refused to comment, stating that she was present only to install the personnel board.

FOREIGN MINISTRY CONDEMNS TERRORISM, HOLDING OF U.S. HOSTAGES

PA162226 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1843 GMT 16 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpt] San Jose, 16 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--In a communique issued by the Foreign Affairs Ministry, the Costa Rican Government has strongly protested any form of terrorism.

The communique was issued following the release of Alejandro Alvarado Piza, Costa Rican ambassador to El Salvador, who was held hostage for 80 hours last weekend in the Panamanian Embassy in San Salvador.

Alvarado Piza was at the Panamanian Embassy paying a courtesty visit to his colleague David Pere, when some 50 members of the 28 February People's Leagues (LP-28) seized the diplomatic mission and demanded the freedom of several LP-28 members who were in prison for participating in a labor conflict.

The Costa Rican Government expressed its "strongest protest against all forms of political, armed or intellectual terrorism."

The communique says furthermore that Costa Rica considers "terrorism to be one of the most vile forms of pressure, contrary to every principle of human dignity and respect."

After expressing its concern over the second kidnaping in recent months of a member of its diplomatic corps abroad, the Costa Rican Government urged the United Nations to "carry out all necessary efforts to obtain the immediate release of the hostages in the U.S. Embassy in Iran."

NICARAGUAN FOREIGN MINISTER PAYS UNEXPECTED VISIT

PA160246 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 16 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto paid an unexpected visit to our country and met with President Rodrigo Carazo this afternoon.

According to D'Escoto, he came to discuss a new date for the postponed meeting of the foreign ministers of Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic. A new date for the similarly postponed meeting of isthmian presidents and government juntas was also discussed.

After meeting with the Nicaraguan foreign minister, his Costa Rican counterpart, Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier, announced that contacts are already underway to set a new date for a meeting of the foreign ministers of Panama, Central America and the Dominican Republic. Efforts are being made to hold the meeting in February because there are several extremely pressing issues that can no longer be postponed, he explained. But, Calderon Fournier said, the exact date for the meeting has not yet been set.

AUTHORITIES DENY INVOLVEMENT IN ATLANTIC AREA CLASHES

PA161612 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1531 GMT 16 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Reporting further on disturbances in the Atlantic area early today, we inform you that the Red Cross has called for ambulances and personnel to take care of the persons wounded by bullets at the Babilonia farm, in a place called Williamsburg, near Sequirres.

The first reports were very confusing because the authorities said they did not know anything about any clashes between the police and the strikers. We later learned, however, from the General Confederation of Costa Rican Workers [CGTC] that there were 30 persons wounded at the Bananito farm and 17 at the Babilonia farm as a result of clashes between the strikers and the authorities.

The Costa Rican Red Cross confirmed that it had to transport wounded persons, but no reports on the number of wounded persons were given and the authorities continued to deny that there were any clashes.

Our correspondents in the Atlantic area have reported that there were very serious incidents early today but that these were among the workers and were not the result of any direct participation on the part of the authorities.

Official reports revealed that a group of workers who were trying to resume activities clashed with another group of workers, identified as communists, who tried to prevent them from doing so by force. Trouble started at this point, shots were heard, and this resulted in several workers being wounded.

The authorities have not established who fired at whom, but the fact is that the incident took place among the workers, those on strike and those who wanted to resume work.

We have contacted the medical authorities in the area and have been told that the persons they treated were wounded with .22 caliber pistols and not .38 caliber which is the type used by the public force. This is proof that the incidents did not involve the authorities as it was originally reported. The social security clinic in Siquirres treated six workers with slight wounds. Calm prevails in the area right now but there is a lot of tension because of the heated situation. It has now been clearly established that a marked division exists among the workers because many want to resume activities while others remain firm in their attitude.

The CGTC report on the number of persons wounded, 30 at the Bananito farm and 17 at the Babilonia farm, has not been officially confirmed.

SECURITY MINISTER DISCUSSES VIOLENCE AT LIMON PLANTATION

PA170002 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 16 Jan 80 PA

[Carmen Pol interview with Costa Rican Public Security Minister Juan Jose Echeverria Brealey in San Jose on 16 January--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Pol] We are reporting directly from the office of Public Security Minister Echeverria Brealey, who will refer to the incidents in Limon Province this morning.

[Echeverria] This morning at 0430 the Civil Guard was sent to the Bananito plantation where the workers said they wanted to go back to work. However, a group of leaders and workers from other plantations who belong to the minority that has not gone back to work tried to prevent the Civil Guard from fulfilling its duty of guaranteeing the right to work. The civil guardsmen were attacked with sticks and stones. A guardsman slipped and fell into an irrigation ditch of the plantation and a group of the strikers surrounded him and began to kick him. The leader of the civil guardsmen decided to open fire. I believe his decision was right because it is time that those who think that they can do as they please in Costa Rica find out that this is not so. Two strikers were shot in the leg because the civil guardsmen have been instructed to do so.

[Question] Have you confirmed that Ricardo (Allen), the communist union leader who was wounded yesterday, was carrying subversive propaganda?

[Answer] He was carrying propaganda, which is a crime because it promotes the paralyzation of public services. On the basis of Article 334 of the penal code this is punishable. He was also ordered to stop because there was an arrest warrant out for him. He did not obey the order and fled. That is when the guard shot him in the leg and that is the situation of union leader (Allen).

STRIKE SEEN AS PART OF COMMUNIST COLD WAR PLAN

PA160056 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 15 Jan 80 PA

[Editorial]

[Text] It is not at all strange that President Carazo is engaged in a clear and very definite confrontation with the communists. Any dreamer who does not understand this or who does not see that the strike threatens to create a crisis and even greater tension need only turn his eyes north. We are part of the world's structure and communists and strikes in Costa Rica are part of that structure too.

We are engaged in a cold war. The United States has asked the world not to hold the Olympic games in Moscow. The United States has asked the Security Council for the withdrawal of the Soviet troops invading Afghanistan. The Red leaders in Costa Rica are part of that cold war. In Costa Rica we are engaged in the cold war that is now returning to the world. As a result of the confrontation between Russia and the United States the puppets are being pulled by their strings. China has taken a very clear stand. Cuba is also playing an important role at present, but no one is doing anything to cool off the tension. No one. The communists, who are ill-directed and even more poorly oriented, should contribute to the cooling off. They should help prevent further confrontations.

International communism had changed its tactics. Everything seemed to indicate that they were moving along a path of Costa Rican-style communism. But now we are realizing that the situation is worse than before. [Their tactics] respond to international interests.

After the failure of Eurocommunism in France, Italy and Spain, Latin America had been looking for its own identity. But the effervescence and blindness caused by the crisis have destroyed everything. In Costa Rica communism was treading an easy path; it was moving along the path of a very interesting Eurocommunism without international response. Certain phenomena, nonetheless, seemed to elicit questions regarding its attitude--the Soviet Embassy, the purchases and exchanges with the Soviet Union. Still the communists had not made any serious mistakes in the past.

But the communists in Costa Rica are now destroying their own conquests. Communists are looking for the expulsion of the Soviet Embassy. Communists are looking for the closing of their own embassy. Communists are looking for the end of trade with the Soviet Union. Communists are looking for Costa Rica to break relations with both Cuba and the socialist countries. The native communists are destroying all the conquests they had achieved, including control over most unions. Communists are headed for the destruction of their own conquests.

The Carazo-Manuel Mora confrontation very clearly points to the nature of the problem. We are engaged in a confrontation over Afghanistan.

This is an international problem, and not a simple one. The banana strike is not a problem concerning unions and banana workers; it is a confrontation between the United States and Afghanistan, between the United States and Russia.

Manuel Mora, the traditional representative of Russia in Costa Rica, is engaged in a confrontation divested of diplomatic language and employing Costa Rican-style insults against President Carazo. It is really very simple, and this is how we must all understand it: The banana strike problem stems from the fact that the communists are better organized than the government and that communists impose their own game rules.

Will we turn Costa Rica into another Cambodia? Will we be really prepared for a war? Sooner or later, there will be a confrontation among Costa Ricans here. The communists are playing with fire and are forcing others to resort to violence. The communists are provoking violence and are organizing for guerrilla warfare. Costa Rica is not an exception, and now is the time for clear definitions. Either we are on the side of the communists or we are against them. In the present cold war the communists are playing their role, and we can already see them throwing more fuel onto the fire. Sad, bitter and cruel days lie ahead.

PANAMANIAN DISSIDENT CROCAMO REQUESTS POLITICAL ASYLUM

PA161717 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 16 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Panamanian dissident Abraham Crocamo has asked the Costa Rican Foreign Relations Ministry for political asylum. The request was made on Monday, the same day that his tourist visa expired. As a matter of fact, Costa Rican Interior Minister Juan Jose Echeverria had announced that Crocamo would be expelled from Costa Rica once his tourist visa expired. Echeverria said that Crocamo would be expelled to another country other than Panama. He accused Crocamo of participating in activities threatening the security of a friendly country, Panama.

EL SALVADOR

NATIONAL GUARD, SUBVERSIVES CLASH IN ARCATAO AREA

PA161512 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 14 Jan 80 p 36 PA

[Text] Several clashes resulting in many casualties to subversive elements have been reported by members of the National Guard in the villages of Las Lomas, Las Joyas and Cerro Grande, under the jurisdiction of Arcatao. Operations were carried out yesterday afternoon and this morning in search of agent Jose Elias Equintania, who was kidnaped on Saturday morning by a group of heavily armed unidentified individuals. It was reported that the operations were continuing in the area and it is foreseen that new clashes will occur.

JUNTA MEMBER EHRLICH CALLS ON PEOPLE TO SUPPORT CHANGES

PA161503 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 15 Jan 80 p 3 PA

[Article: "A Process of Change Would Avert a War"]

[Text] Dr Jose Antonio Morales Ehrlich, a member of the revolutionary government junta, said yesterday "there would not be a threat of a civil war if the Salvadoran people respond to the process of necessary changes we are determined to carry out."

The official said "the extreme right and the extreme left are linked [empatada]" and the army alone cannot rule. It has been necessary to seek the path we have taken in this process of peaceful changes without resorting to violence.

Regarding the time frame for the structural changes in El Salvador, Dr Morales Ehrlich said it would be about 3 months before results could be seen. He also said that by no means should it be thought that the only solution to the current crisis is civil war because, with a little more understanding by the two extremes, national unity can be achieved. He said all social sectors should realize that a civil war would be fatal and bloody and, in particular, would favor those in the extreme right who want to recover power.

PEOPLE URGED NOT TO WITHDRAW FUNDS FROM BANKS

PA161547 San Salvador Cadena YSU in Spanish 1534 GMT 15 Jan 80 PA

[Commentary: "Something About the Nationalization of Banks"]

[Text] There has been much uproar about the bank nationalization announced by the Salvadoran revolutionary junta. The most marked reaction has been that thousands of people with savings and checking accounts in various banks of the country have withdrawn most of their money and hidden it in a place they believe will be safe. We want to tell those citizens and the people in general that there is no valid reason for withdrawing their deposits. On the contrary, what they are definitely doing is placing their money within the reach of common criminals who can break into their homes and steal all their cash because they have committed the mistake of withdrawing it from the banks. There is no safer place for your money than any bank of the system, even if it is nationalized, because the only ones affected by the nationalization are the current owners and stockholders of the banks rather than the users as has been mistakenly reported.

We can also state that the bank employees will not be affected in their labor stability or benefits because the nationalization does not include them.

This commentary was not intended to address the question of the nationalization of the national banking system but to ease the minds of the bank workers and the customers who are afraid that their savings or deposits will be affected. No, gentlemen, savings will not be affected. We want to stress this so that there will be no panic, as some sectors have wanted, among the people. We urge those people who have hidden their money under the pillows or mattresses or perhaps have buried it in some clay container to deposit it in a bank. The money can only be safe from theft in a bank because when nationalization comes the state will be the guarantor of that money.

GUATEMALA

GOVERNMENT REVEALS TOP-LEVEL COMMUNIST CONSPIRACY

PA162221 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2031 GMT 16 Jan 80 PA

[By Francisco Rubiales]

[Text] Guatemala City, 16 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--The Guatemalan Government today reveals a big international communist plan worth several million dollars, which seeks to destroy the country's image and unleash a guerrilla struggle aimed at seizing power.

In an urgent communique distributed by the presidency of the republic, the Guatemalan Government affirms it is in possession of abundant information on this alleged "conspiracy" and promises to release some evidence soon.

"They want to turn us into the prey of ominous totalitarianism," the document charges in one of its paragraphs.

According to the charge, communist and guerrilla representatives from Cuba, Jamaica, Panama, Grenada, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala and Costa Rica attended a secret meeting held on 22 December in San Jose, Costa Rica.

Those in attendance, the document adds, included a representative of Dominican Revolutionary Party leader Jose Francisco Pena Gomez; Omar Torrijos' representative, Raul Changmarin; Jesus Montane, a member of the Communist Party of Cuba and an organization expert; Nicaraguan Deputy Culture Minister Daisy Zamora and several others, all of them under the presidency of top Costa Rican communist leader Manuel Mora.

According to the Guatemalan Government, the purpose of that meeting was to speed up the subversive maneuver aimed at dominating Central America and the Caribbean.

Guatemalan official spokesmen have told this agency that the intensification of the struggle against El Salvador and Guatemala was among the points agreed on at the San Jose meeting. It was also agreed that Fidel Castro, president of the Cuban State Council, would be asked to send weapons, food and medicines to the guerrilla groups that will launch their main attacks on Guatemala and El Salvador.

Guatemala claims it has evidence that the guerrillas who will operate in Guatemala and El Salvador are being trained by Nicaraguan Deputy Defense Minister Eden Pastora, who gained worldwide notoriety as "Commander Cero" when he directed the attack on and seizure of Managua's National Palace in August 1978.

"Commander Cero" is allegedly helping Puerto Rican Manuel Andara Ubeda, one of the closest collaborators of Juan Mari Bras, secretary general of the pro-Cuban Socialist Party of Puerto Rico, in the task of training the guerrillas.

According to the official Guatemalan report, President Fernando Romeo Lucas Garcia's government "is perfectly capable not only of controlling subversion, but of fighting it by all the means demanded by the circumstances."

The Guatemalan Government information circles believe that the man in charge of purchasing the weapons that are to be used in the guerrilla attack on Central America is Jose Perez Novoa, a member of the Cuban delegation to the United Nations. For his purchases he uses money deposited in a bank in Miami.

They also affirm that Fidel Castro is firmly determined to send aid to the guerrilla struggle in El Salvador and Guatemala, but that he is also demanding that Nicaragua include in the operation guerrilla groups trained in the battle against Anastasio Somoza and the Nicaraguan National Guard.

According to the Guatemalan Government, the first step before the guerrillas' frontal attack is a campaign aimed at internationally discrediting the country. An official source stated today that "Amnesty International is believed to be participating" in this campaign.

In the past few days, Guatemala's Government and right wing have joined efforts to counteract this alleged world campaign that is believed to be spreading the idea of a Guatemala marked by violence, social injustice, torture and jail.

They affirm that the Jesuits and the international press are largely responsible for this campaign against Guatemala. As an example they note Congressman Robert Drinan's recent visit to Guatemala. Drinan, a Jesuit, has affirmed that human rights are not respected in this country and that he will mention this in his report to the U.S. Congress.

ATTACK ON EMBASSY IN SAN SALVADOR CONDEMNED

PA150433 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0009 GMT 15 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 14 Jan (LATIN)--The Guatemalan Government today condemned the attack against its embassy in San Salvador. The embassy was damaged but no one was injured.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said that the attack took place at dawn today when unidentified persons machinegunned the embassy. The spokesman said that no one was injured since at the time of the attack the offices had not been opened.

This is the second attack against the Guatemalan Embassy in El Salvador. Last year, unidentified persons exploded a terrorist device in the building, causing serious damage to it.

LEADER QUESTIONS NICARAGUAN ASSURANCES ON EXPORTING REVOLUTION

PA141755 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1932 GMT 13 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 13 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Mario Sandoval Alarcon, leader of the anti-communist national liberation movement, said here today that Guatemalans must not believe the statement made by Nicaraguan Comdr Tomas Borge that the Sandinists will not export their revolution to Guatemala.

"I do not believe in Borge's word because communists are expansionists," said the former Guatemalan vice president, now in the opposition. He participated in the overthrow of Jacobo Arbenz's leftist government in 1954.

He dismissed the importance of the visit Guatemalan Government Minister Donaldo Alvarez Ruiz paid to Borge, strongman of the Nicaraguan revolution, on Tuesday in Managua. The visit has been interpreted here as the prelude to a nonaggression pact and a cooperation program between the Guatemalan and Nicaraguan governments despite their ideological differences.

The Guatemalan minister is said to have assured Borge during their meeting that the Guatemalan Government will not allow any local activities against the Sandinist revolution. The Nicaraguan leader reportedly said, in turn, that his country was not interested whatsoever in exporting its revolution to Guatemala.

SENIOR POLICE OFFICER KILLED IN AMBUSH

PA152208 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1614 GMT 15 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 15 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--The deputy chief of Guatemalan National Police 6th Command [Comando Seis], Juan Antonio Lima Lopez, was machinegunned to death here this morning.

The killers, who fled immediately, had opened a crossfire with automatic weapons on the vehicle Lima Lopez was driving. He was alone at the time.

The shooting took place in the northeastern sector of Guatemala City. The few witnesses available have been already questioned, but nothing has been learned that will help in finding the gunmen.

This is the first such murder in Guatemala this year.

Several police chiefs had been threatened with death last year by illegal extremist groups. Jesus Valiente Telles, chief of the detective section, was among those threatened, but apparently there had been no threats against today's victim.

Unofficial reports say this might not have been a political crime but revenge by a criminal gang.

The 6th Command, better known as "SWAT," is a police group specializing in criminal investigation and commando actions. Since its creation 2 years ago it has been successful in the elimination of various gangs.

FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES FOR MEXICO; LOPEZ PORTILLO TO VISIT

PA141542 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 1230 GMT 14 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Minister of Government and Interior Donaldo Alvarez Ruiz left for Mexico City for talks with his Mexican colleague. The main purpose of the minister's visit is to prepare for and discuss details of the visit of President Jose Lopez Portillo to Guatemala at the end of this month.

No details of the topics on the agenda were given, but the press was officially told that, basically, their talks would be on official and formal arrangements for the meeting of the presidents of Guatemala and Mexico.

Foreign Minister Rafael Castillo Valdez has confirmed the Mexican president's arrival in Guatemala on 26 and 27 January. [sentence as heard] The foreign minister pointed out that misinformed sources had rumored that the Mexican president would not be coming to Guatemala, but no credit can be given to these sources. I can confirm, said the official, the visit of the Mexican president.

The meeting of the Mexican and Guatemalan presidents will be held in this capital and should be beneficial for their respective nations. This is the wish of President Lopez Portillo [words indistinct] Lucas Garcia, Guatemalan Foreign Minister Castillo Valdez stated.

In reiterating that the visit of Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo to Guatemala will be made in the near future which has not yet been officially announced [as heard], it was said in the Ministry of Foreign Relations that the agenda the presidents of Guatemala and Mexico will discuss [words indistinct]. In Mexico City a meeting of the high-level Mexican-Guatemalan economic commission seeks to improve a trade situation that traditionally has resulted in deficit for Guatemala.

The [word indistinct] delegation attending the meeting is headed by Gilberto Corso, who is vice minister of economic integration, our ambassador in Mexico Jorge Palmieri, and Rolando (Portaespana), manager of [name indistinct]. It also includes government officials and leaders of private enterprise.

ALVAREZ CALLS MEETING WITH BORGE 'FRUITFUL'

PA112258 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 1230 GMT 11 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Guatemalan Government Minister Donaldo Alvarez Ruiz has just returned from Managua where he was on an official visit.

As a result of the minister's visit to Nicaragua, it has been concluded that no groups are being trained there to export the Sandinist revolution to Guatemala and that no Nicaraguan forces are being trained here to carry out a counterrevolution in that sister nation.

Minister Alvarez said personal contact with the high-ranking Nicaraguan military chief, Commander Borge, was necessary and has been useful for both countries because it has been possible to establish that [words indistinct] and the government that resulted from the Sandinist revolution that overthrew the Somoza regime are being respected.

Alvarez said his meeting with Borge has been fruitful. There are no camps for exporting revolution. The Guatemalan minister was able to establish that no commando groups are being trained in Nicaragua to export their revolution. This was also made clear to him by high-ranking chiefs of the Sandinist revolution. The Guatemalan minister noted that they are working to train a professional militia and a disciplined police to control Nicaragua's internal security. The high-ranking leaders of the Sandinist revolution wanted to know what Nicaraguan exiles in Guatemala are doing and we can assure them that no group is allowed to operate in Guatemala against the security of friendly states.

MEXICO ACCUSED OF BEING FUNNEL FOR SMUGGLED ARMS

PA141602 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1736 GMT 12 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 12 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Guatemala Government Minister Donaldo Alvarez Ruiz said here today that some weapons used by Central American subversive groups are brought in through Mexico. The official made this statement before leaving for Mexico where he will meet with officials involved in a similar sphere of activities to discuss issues related to the internal security of both states and immigration matters.

In addition to his "official" duties, it is believed that he may also attempt to coordinate matters related to the security of Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo during his announced visit to Guatemala on an as-yet-undetermined date in the near future. Alvarez Ruiz said "A wave of smuggling between Mexico and the Central American countries has supplied arms to guerrilla groups." These groups, in his opinion, "Maintain a close interrelationship."

HONDURAS

10,000 SUGAR WORKERS BEGIN STRIKE; MORE COULD JOIN

PA160053 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1803 GMT 15 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 15 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Some 10,000 workers at two sugar mills began an indefinite strike today.

The Chumbagua sugar mill in the western part of the country and the Acensa in the south have been closed since last night. The Acensa mill was taken over by its workers.

In Chumbagua the strikers demand reinstitution of nine of their leaders who were dismissed. The company refuses to discuss the reinstitution as demanded by Honduran labor law.

The Acensa workers are protesting the appointments of several persons the workers claim are opposed to labor interests, practice an overbearing manner and display an eminently antilabor attitude.

It was revealed here that the workers of other mills could join the strike until some 40,000 technicians and canecutters are idle. There is also discontent among the union leaders because of the government's intention of supporting the creation of a sugar workers union favoring the enterprises.

NICARAGUA

UN AMBASSADOR DISCUSSES POSITION ON AFGHANISTAN

PA161726 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 16 Jan 80 PA

[Text] The Nicaraguan ambassador to the United Nations, Victor Tinoco, gave the Nicaraguan Government's position concerning Afghanistan, by stating that the Nicaraguan representation has been observing with growing concern the complex developments in southern Asia. The conflict in Iran, he said, the attitude of international reactionary sectors in Afghanistan and the presence of Soviet troops in that country, the maneuvers of U.S. naval forces in the area. The threat implied by the supply of arms to Pakistan, and in general, the postponement of the approval of the SALT II treaties, are situations that jeopardize world peace.

Nicaragua, as a member of the nonalined movement, reiterates its support for the principle of nonintervention and does not believe that it can give its opinion on proposals that do not reflect the interests of the nonalined nations, since the partial consideration of the problem will not lead to its solution. Our country demands the calm and responsible reflection of those who today hold the world's security in their hands and urges an unconditional dialog that may promote disarmament and a stable and lasting peace for the world.

BORGE VIEWS ACHIEVEMENTS 6 MONTHS AFTER VICTORY

PA161927 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpt] In a news conference, Interior Minister Comdr Thomas Borge told foreign newsmen that the achievements of our Sandinist revolution can already be seen. For example, he said, we can see how we are carrying out economic reactivation. The abuses which were uncontrollable a short time ago are already disappearing. The state is beginning to work as such because its entities are exercising true control in the country. The state security bodies in particular are also having success in the persecution of the enemies of our revolution. The police have captured criminal gangs. The hospitals are much better than before. We can conclude from all of this that the efficiencey curve is going up because the government has a better control over the administration and the efficiency of the work carried out by its entities. We feel that this is the most important accomplishment of the past 6 months. We are implementing programs such as price control and literacy campaigns, which are important for all Nicaraguans.

The Sandinist revolution will not eliminate any political parties by decree. No party will be eliminated by decree or force in our country, he said. However, parties such as the Conservative Party will die as people die of malnutrition, anemia and cancer, Borge told newsmen when asked about the existing political parties. When asked what is influencing our reconstruction government, Commander Borge stated the following regarding democracy, the dictatorship and the elections.

[Begin recording] The Sandinist National Liberation Front has the influence here. The ultraright or the ultraleft have an influence which could be described as [word indistinct]. [end recording]

NEW SHOOTING INCIDENT AT VENEZUELAN EMBASSY

PA170442 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0341 GMT 17 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpts] Havana, 16 Jan (EFE)--New shooting occurred on Tuesday evening near the gardens of the Venezuelan Embassy in this capital when two individuals attempted to drive a truck into the ambassador's residence. The report, which was not released until today, also states that in the intense but brief shooting one of the Cubans seeking asylum in the embassy was killed and the other wounded. Diplomatic circles in the Cuban capital told EFE the wounded person, whose condition is serious, managed to enter the area of diplomatic protection despite efforts by policemen to detain him.

This new incident occurred in the absence of Cesar Rondon, Venezuelan ambassador to Cuba, who is in Caracas. He was recalled by his government to report on a similar incident that occurred on 13 December, in which one person was killed.

COMMENTARY ASSESSES NEW U.S.-CHINA MILITARY TIES

PA150506 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Jan 80 PA

[World events commentary by Angel Hernandez]

[Text] After a week's visit to China and a brief stay in Japan, U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown returns to his country having established with the Beijing hierarchs the conditions under which the United States is willing to contribute to modernizing the Chinese Army. During his 4 days in Beijing the chief of the U.S. Pentagon negotiated with the principal Chinese leaders and military chiefs the type of cooperation to be carried out by the two countries. In his talks with the principal Chinese leaders, Brown agreed to supply China with advanced military technology. This includes satellite tracking equipment as well as modern weapons.

According to Pentagon specialists the renovation of Chinese military equipment will require an investment of some $60 billion. The U.S.-Chinese ties have been strengthened since the visit to the United States last year by Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping and were improved after the treacherous attack launched with U.S. approval against Vietnam by the Beijing leaders. Now with Brown's visit to China the ties between U.S. imperialism and China's new fascism have been consolidated and the hegemonic aspirations of the new Mandarins have been reinforced.

The Chinese-U.S. alliance is based on common interests in Southeast Asia and other regions of this continent. As part of the cooperation between the two countries, the Beijing regime granted U.S. petroleum companies concessions on jurisdictional lands and waters in the Tonkin Gulf, which were illegally occupied by China during the genocidal war unleashed by the United States against the people of Vietnam.

The visit of the U.S. defense secretary will seal the strategic alliance between imperialism and its new ally, the Chinese hierarchs, who intend to become the most faithful defenders of imperialist interests in Asia. In order to achieve their ambitious expansion plans in Asia, Beijing's new fascist Mandarins need to have Washington's support and cooperation. On the other hand, U.S. imperialism seeks complicity with the Chinese regime to exert economic domination over Southeast Asia after having failed in all its attempts to seize Laos, Vietnam and Kampuchea by force.

According to Asian experts it is possible that Harold Brown proposed to the Chinese leaders that in exchange for the modernization of the Chinese Army, U.S. 7th Fleet ships be allowed to use Chinese ports.

These ports, together with the naval bases established by the United States in Japan, the Philippines, South Korea and Diego Garcia Island, will allow U.S. imperialism to reinforce its presence in Pacific, Atlantic and Indian Ocean waters.

These naval bases are part of the global strategy of imperialism in its plans for aggression and conquest of the Asiatic peoples. Within these plans, the U.S. Pentagon has assigned an important role to the Beijing leaders who, in their determination to fulfill their expansionist and hegemo.c dreams, do not hesitate at the danger of unleashing a third world war.

MONTREAL CONSULATE BOMBED; DIPLOMATS CONDEMN ACT

FL160146 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Various Latin American groups and personalities residing in Montreal have condemned the terrorist attack on the Cuban consulate in that Canadian city which took place early yesterday morning. The Spanish program on the community radio [name indistinct] of Montreal has condemned the terrorist attack and stated that those who carried it out are trying to cut off the dialog of the community abroad with their country of origin.

Also from Canada it was learned that the Cuban Embassy in Ottawa, the capital, and the general consulate in Montreal held meetings condeming the attack. Consul General Carlos Alzugaray told the members of the diplomatic and trade mission that in response to the terrorist act all Cubans working in Canada have vowed to continue defending their homeland and to work daily to overcome the difficulties.

RODRIGUEZ RECEIVES SOVIET FORESTRY OFFICIAL

FL151127 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 15 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the PCC Politburo and vice president of the councils of State and Ministers, has received Georgiy I. Vorob'yev, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Forestry, who is visiting our country by invitation of the Cuban Government.

Official Tours Santiago

FL160042 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Jan 80 FL

[Text] A USSR delegation headed by G.I. Vorob'yev, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Forestry and candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee, is in Santiago de Cuba on a working visit. The purpose of the visit by the Soviet official is to strengthen and deepen cooperation in this economic field and to learn about the prospects for expanding this field in Cuba, especially in the integral plan for the Sierra Maestra, which recently was declared a national park.

SOVIET PRICES CHAIRMAN TOURS MINING AREAS

FL160034 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Nikolay Glushkov, chairman of the USSR State Committee on Prices, has toured the installations of the Maj Rene Ramos Latour nickel complex of Nicaro and the Marti and Pinares de Mayari mines on the second day of his stay in Holguin. Glushkov was briefed on the nickel production process and the mineral transportation system to that industry through the inclined plains from Pinares de Mayari, where renovation began today to increase its present capacity. The head of the USSR State Committee on Prices arrived in Holguin on Sunday accompanied by Santiago Riera, his Cuban counterpart, and Catalina Rubier, vice president of this organization of the state central administration.

Meets With High Official

FL161844 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 16 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Humberto Perez, vice president of the Council of Ministers and president of the Central Planning Board, today received Nikolay Glushkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers State Committee on Prices, who is visiting Cuba. Santiago Riera, minister-president of our country's state committee for prices, attended the meeting along with other Soviet and Cuban officials. During his stay in Cuba, Glushkov will meet with various Cuban officials, and a cooperation agreement will be signed thereafter.

Ends Holguin Tour

FL170102 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Jan 80 FL

[Excerpt] The chairman of the USSR State Committee on Prices has concluded his visit to Holguin with a tour of the 60th anniversary of the October Revolution sugarcane combine harvesters plant accompanied by Miguel Cano Blanco, member of the Central Committee and first party secretary in this province.

HAITIAN COMMUNIST DELEGATION VISITS SUGARCANE AREA

FL142319 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 14 Jan 80 FL

[Text] A delegation from the Haitian Communist Unified Party headed by Secretary General (Rene Theodor) has visited the (Caidaje) batey [community surrounding a sugar mill] in Minas municipality, Camaguey Province where a large group of Haitians and their dependents are located. (Rene Theodor) explained the conditions in his country and the way his people are struggling against the Duvalier regime.

Leader Hold Press Conference

FL160201 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 16 Jan 80 FL

[Text] This afternoon (Rene Theodor), secretary general of the Haitian Communist Unified Party who is visiting our country, held a press conference on the present situation in Haiti under the dictatorship of Jean-Claude Duvalier. (Theodor), who has been invited by the PCC Central Committee, referred to the conspiracy of silence of the capitalist press on the conditions of hunger and misery in Haiti and the struggles of that people against the dictatorship.

The Haitian communist leader pointed out that inside the framework of a fragile democratic opening fraudulent elections were held in February of last year. As a result all of the official candidates won. Lastly (Rene Theodor) stated that the communist program now is to strengthen itself as an organization and set up a broad front with all democratic organizations to overthrow the dictatorship.

VILMA ESPIN MEETS WITH ANGOLAN WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION

FL151139 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 15 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Vilma Espin, president of the Federation of Cuban Women [FMC] and member of the PCC Central Committee, and the members of the Angolan delegation headed by (Julian Engenda), member of the Angolan Women Organization Secretariat, have held a fraternal meeting in Havana City. The Angolan delegation's main objective while in Cuba is to gain experience on the preparatory work for the third FMC congress and learn about the tasks of the Cuban organization. For a period of 1 month the Angolan women will tour some provinces and attend FMC meetings for the evaluation, election and/or reelection of officers.

IRAQI IMPRESSED BY ISLE OF YOUTH CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

FL161524 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 16 Jan 80 FL

[Text] The level of construction achieved on the Isle of Youth over recent years is truly impressive, Muhammad Fadil, Iraqi minister of public works and housing, has told the press. Fadil yesterday visited that special municipality at the head of a delegation from his country. After visiting the Isle of Youth, the Iraqi minister went to the city of Cienfuegos accompanied by Levi Farah, government minister in charge of Cuban construction abroad.

Risquet Meets With Fadil

FL170144 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Jorge Risquet Valdes, member of the PCC Central Committee Secretariat, has exchanged opinions with Muhammad Fadil, minister of public works and housing of the Republic of Iraq, at the (Pasacaballos) Hotel in the city of Cienfuegos. Risquet was accompanied by Humberto Miguel Fernandez, first secretary of the party in Cienfuegos Province; Aldo Alvarez, chief of the PCC Central Committee department for construction; and Levi Farah, government minister in charge of Cuban construction abroad.

Participating on the Iraqi side were (Adul Abad Lasis), chief of roads and bridges of the Iraqi [public works] ministry; architect (Suger Asanawi), chief of the design directorate; and (Al Mar), chief of the engineering section.

RUMORS OF PLOT AGAINST CASTRO CIRCULATED IN HAVANA

PA170524 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0500 GMT 17 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Havana 16 Jan (EFE)--In the past few days, shortly after Comdr Ramiro Valdes took charge of the Interior Ministry, there has been a special strengthening of security measures. No specific reasons have been given for this. However, in Havana last week there was a rumor regarding the possibility that an attack would be made against an important member of the Cuban Government. Some have said the attack would take place against President Fidel Castro himself.

Unofficial sources have told EFE that Cuban security organizations have not dismissed the possibility of a plot against Dr Fidel Castro Ruz.

The same sources have also insisted in flatly denying that the attack being rumored has already taken place. However, strong security measures, including measures controlling the population, are evident. These measures have been carried out on the streets of the Cuban capital since Friday, 11 January.

In the centrally located Vedado area especially, strong police contingents are requesting passersby to show their identifications, especially at night. Patrol cars of the National Revolutionary Police are stopping buses to ask passengers for their identification. Those who do not have their identification cards with them are taken to police units.

Unofficial Cuban sources confirmed that a U.S.-made boat was found last week in a beach of Miramar, a residential zone in Havana. This also confirms the rumors circulating among the people that the intensive police measures are intended to try to find the occupants of the boat, which is believed to have infiltrated from abroad.

What is true so far is an increase in police vigilance in Havana and main cities in Cuba, which according to official sources has no other purpose than to struggle against a crime increase in recent years in Cuba.

None of the official sources interviewed by EFE gave special importance to these measures, which they considered an attempt on the part of the government "to keep hoodlums out of the streets." Once the broad police operation displayed from 21 to 23 December ended, the short poems criticizing the government were discontinued, although the arrest of persons whose identities have not been disclosed has continued. Last Monday night, residents from the Virgen del Camino District in Havana told EFE news agency that they heard two small explosions which they supposed were caused by two small bombs.

COMMUNIST PARTY AUTHORIZES PRESS CRITICISM

PA170458 Paris AFP in Spanish 0305 GMT 17 Jan 80 PA

[By Jacques Thomet]

[Excerpt] Havana, 16 Jan (AFP)--The newspaper GRANMA today published a motion approved by the Communist Party of Cuba during its ninth plenary session on 28 November 1979, urging the press to continue criticizing the party and state institutions' mistakes and negligence.

The belated publication of this request, which has now been made following the two recent changes in the government, seems to be aimed at encouraging local newspapers to continue criticizing the mistakes of the administration and of the bureaucracy, as they have been doing for the past 6 months. The recent changes in the executive branch should not in any way be interpreted as a move to stop criticism. The importance of this campaign of criticism was analyzed on 30 November 1979 by Raul Castro, second secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba.

DOMINICA

DISMISSED HEALTH MINISTER URGES ELECTIONS

FL152103 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 15 Jan 80 FL

[Excerpt] Dominica's former health minister, Charles Maynard, has urged Prime Minister Oliver Seraphin to call an election soon and bring an end to all the present political instability in the island. The former health minister was dismissed by Mr Seraphin yesterday along with Attorney General Brian Alleyne. However, Mr Maynard has told reporters that he has planned to resign effective today and Mr Seraphin was aware of this. The two men were appointed when the interim government was installed last June after the fall of Patrick John, and Mr Seraphin had promised the dissolution of Parliament by today but there has been no word on this action.

Mr Maynard said that the single most important feature of the life of the interim government has been its reluctance to call general elections.

GRENADA

PRIME MINISTER BISHOP TO VISIT ALGERIA

FL151851 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 15 Jan 80 FL

[Text] The Algerian news media today stress the forthcoming arrival in that country of Grenada's prime minister, Maurice Bishop, who will be making an official 3-day visit. The newspaper EL MOUDJAHID publishes a report on Grenada and points out that under the Bishop government the Caribbean country is directing its foreign policy toward nonalinement and support for the liberation movement.

FORMER PRIME MINISTER GAIRY'S PROPERTY SEIZED

PA150434 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2141 GMT 14 Jan 80 PA

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, 14 Jan (LATIN-REUTER)--The property of ousted Grenadian Prime Minister Sir Eric Gairy has been confiscated by the Peoples Revolutionary Government (GPR), it was officially announced today. According to an official delcaration, his property included a house, 2 restaurants and over 14 hectares of land.

The government has also expropriated certain property belonging to Derick Knight, a former minister in Gairy's Cabinet. Knight's and his wife's shares in three companies are now "in the name of the government and the people of Grenada," says the declaration.

Both Knight and Eric Gairy are now exiled after the GPR seized power in a coup staged last March.

JAMAICA

PNP TO EXAMINE PROPOSAL FOR NATIONAL UNITY GOVERNMENT

FL101248 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 10 Jan 80 FL

[Text] The People's National Party [PNP] is to hold a special meeting later today with a view to adopting a position on certain proposals made by the Private Sector Organization of Jamaica [PSOJ].

The PNP meeting comes against the background of a call by the PSOJ for a government of national unity. In a radio broadcast the president of the organization, Carlton Alexander, urged all political parties, business groups, trade unions and churches to pool their resources in an effort to combat the present crisis which now faces the country. According to Mr Alexander, the island is now on the brink of disaster, and he said a government of national unity was critical at this time.

In response, the ruling PNP said it regarded the proposal as having such serious implications that it would be discussing the matter at a special delegates' conference to be held this weekend.

JMA, OTHERS CALL FOR GOVERNMENT RESIGNATION

FL151750 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1730 GMT 15 Jan 80 FL

[Text] The president of the Jamaica Manufacturers Association [JMA] Mr Winston Mahfood, says he has no further interest in working with the present government for production as the government had not [word indistinct].

Mr Mahfood was speaking at last night's stormy general meeting of the Private Sector Organization of Jamaica [PSO] at the Pegasus Hotel. He said the private sector had done enough without the government reciprocating, and Mr Mahfood said he, as most people in Jamaica, was now in despair and no longer prepared to try any more.

The JMA president said it was against this background that he was moving his resolution demanding the government's resignation. He said it would take about 4 months to organize for elections and if the opposition could not organize itself within that time, then it was not worth it.

In his contribution, PSOJ President Carlton Alexander said there was no doubt that there was mismanagement in the economy, but he argued that there was still what he called some air in the system, and the PSOJ president said what the government needed was assistance in running the economy. He said the PSOJ failed in that it had no plan to offer, and calling for resignation wouldn't help because whatever government was in power the country's problems still had to be solved.

Meanwhile, the Montego Bay branch of the Women's Freedom Movement has welcomed the call by the private sector for the government to resign. In a release today, the movement urged the other organizations to join in the call so that economic stability could return to the island.

PAPER AGREES WITH JUDGMENT OF VOTING FRAUD BY PNP

FL111535 Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 9 Jan 80 p 6 FL

[GLEANER editorial entitled: "The Odour of Corruption"]

[Text] Mr. Justice Parnell the senior Puisne judge has declared the 1976 election in eastern Hanover a nullity and Dr. King of the PNP [People's National Party] who held the seat has had to vacate it. Mr. Basil Buck of the JLP [Jamaica Labor Party] who brought the petition and his attorney Mr. Winston Spaulding have thus been vindicated in their claim. The evidence in the 'marathon' hearing, one of the longest in Jamaica's legal history, has revealed some of the most appalling breaches of election procedures ever to be brought to light in this country.

Indeed the insistence of the opposition Jamaica Labour Party that there should be immediate electoral reform (an insistance carried to the point where the JLP refused to contest elections until such reforms were instituted) derived from the widely held view that malpractices had been widespread and had reached an alarming level in 1976.

But such views could have been dismissed, as indeed some had tried to dismiss them, as the imaginings of poor losers--the JLP--and their supporters. Now at least in one constituency of the island, after long and careful consideration of all the evidence, the senior Puisne judge has found that "massive irregularities took place on a wide scale resulting in impersonation" and at one station the dead attempted to vote. He found "an odour of corruption flowing from the conspiracy between election officers." Efforts were made to register people of the Peoples National Party persuasion who were not qualified, to keep suspected JLP people off the lists and some 350 people without identification were allowed to vote without the necessary safeguards. Such are some of the findings. It is significant that Dr King of the PNP was found not to be personally involved in any of the irregularities though some of those around him were. Hence it is the party machinery which must take the full blame for the foul deeds of corruption. It is therefore not unreasonable to wonder what happened in other constituencies in the 1976 elections if the disgracefully dishonest behavior of the party machinery in eastern Hanover had, as it must have had, full rein in other constituencies.

We hope that it can now be said that "we have changed all that" with the electoral reforms which are not being put in place.

An attorney for Dr King has said that there will be an appeal against the judgement. It is not for us to prejudge the merits or otherwise of any such appeal. But in the absence of any such suit, and on the basis of the overwhelming and carefully documented evidence in Mr Parnell's judgement, we would enjoin the prime minister to hold a by-election as soon as possible. The people of eastern Hanover have already waited too long for a duly elected representative.

Finally we commend to the government the imaginative and helpful proposals of Mr Parnell on improving electoral procedures. A democracy which is based on the principle of free and fair elections must do everything possible to guarantee that they are free and fair, for the basis of government in a democracy is the consent of the governed--a consent which cannot be given if there is grave doubt about the manner in which the governors have been elected. The nation owes a debt of gratitude to Mr Justice Parnell for his proposals and to him and all those who contributed to yet another example of the independence and integrity of our judicial system.

WPJ SCORES CLOSURE OF RAILWAY CORPORATION

FL151624 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 15 Jan 80 FL

[Text] The Workers Party of Jamaica [WPJ] today reacted to the closure of the Jamaica Railway Corporation [JRC] and the layoff of its workers, describing the action as anti-working class move, and has called for the immediate reinstatement of the employees. According to a WPJ release, yesterday's implementation of a Cabinet decision to lay off the over 1,000 JRC workers played into the hands of those elements in the society bent on reducing the constitutional term of the government.

The WPJ also cited the layoff as having serious implications for the survival of democracy in Jamaica. Economically, the WPJ said, the move would not only lower the living standards of the affected workers but it would also cause further dislocations in other sectors of the economy. Because of this, the WPJ said, government should immediately reinstate the employees with a view to handling the representational rights dispute in a manner consistent with the principles of advanced democracy.

Meanwhile, operations at the JRC remain at a standstill today following yesterday's indefinite closure of the corporation. However, it is understood that the JRC board is to meet today to discuss the latest developments at the company.

MANLEY TAKES UP AGRICULTURE MINISTRY PORTFOLIO

FL141035 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 8 Jan 80 p 3 FL

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, 7 Jan (CANA)--Jamaica's new minister responsible for agriculture, Prime Minister Mr. Michael Manley, took up the portfolio today, in an effort to ensure that this vital sector of the economy gets more attention from government at the highest level.

The prime minister's decision was announced on December 19, during a nationwide broadcast setting out plans to restructure the government for greater efficiency. These plans included the reorganisation of the Cabinet, and a reduction in the number of government ministers from 20 to 13. They also included moves to increase production in the fields of bauxite, tourism and manufacturing.

"But the great national effort has to come in agriculture" Mr. Manley said then. "We have to find the way to mobilise the country to produce more food.

"With all the foreign prices rising," Mr. Manley said, "we will never have the foreign exchange to import as much food in 1980 as the very tight amount that we could afford in 1979. We have to make up the difference by what we produce here.

"We have to get the traditional export crops like sugar, bananas, coffee and cocoa moving forward to earn foreign exchange. We have to break into new export markets like pineapples, avocado pears and other kinds of products. We have to see that the sugar estates and the cane farms and the banana plantations become efficient" Mr. Manley had said.

The new agriculture minister also spoke of the need to earmark good but idle land to see how new acreages can be brought into efficient production.

"We have to sit down with private sector organisations that have management and capital that have never been in agriculture," the prime minister continued, and identify good lands on which they will produce, particularly for export.

"We have to look at the whole question of the huge imports of livestock feeds and realize that we can produce a lot of this ourselves, putting land and the people to work and saving foreign exchange.

"We have to make sure that the Ministry of Agriculture is in the kind of shape financially, psychologically and organisationally to help all this happen. We have to make sure that the farmers and the agricultural workers make it happen," he added.

BRAZIL

CENTRAL BANK PRESIDENT APPOINTED FINANCE MINISTER

PY162114 Paris AFP in Spanish 2031 GMT 16 Jan 80 PY

[Text] According to sources close to the presidency, President Gen Joao Figueiredo today appointed Ernane Galveas, current president of the Central Bank of Brazil, as the new finance minister. Former Finance Minister Karlos Rischbieter resigned on Tuesday.

UN RESOLUTION VIEWED AS POLITICAL DISASTER FOR SOVIETS

PY161318 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 16 Jan 80 PY

[Newton Carlos commentary]

[Text] There is practically nothing new regarding the great international crisis. The Soviet Union limited itself yesterday to denying that it is concentrating troops on the Iranian-Afghan border or that it is directing the Soviet intervention forces in Afghanistan toward the Iranian petroleum fields.

Yesterday the great international crisis was fueled by the UN resolution demanding Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan. The result of the UN voting was a political defeat for the Soviet Union, and many people even feel that it represents a political disaster for it. Only 18 countries which defend the Soviet Union voted against the resolution, and among the 18 abstentions some were real surprises, such as Algeria, (?India), Syria and Nicaragua, which assumed different positions from that of Cuba.

The conclusion is that the Soviets miscalculated the possible international reaction against the intervention in Afghanistan. The nonalined countries voted almost massively for the resolution condemning the Soviet Union. The resolution was supported by 24 nonalined countries, which makes it the most serious condemnation imposed on the Soviet Union by the Third World.

What we need to know now is how the Soviet Union is going to swallow and digest this political defeat, termed by many a political disaster.

CHILE

LEVEL OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH UK TO BE RAISED

PY161809 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 16 Jan 80 PY

[Excerpt] In a brief communique, the British Embassy in Santiago has reported that Chile and Great Britain will resume diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level, and that they will begin the proceedings necessary to appoint their respective ambassadors.

In 1975 the socialist government of James Callaghan decided to withdraw its ambassador in Santiago because of the Sheila Cassidy case. She was detained and expelled from Chile for her involvement with the outlawed Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR].